

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 212571

NODIS
EYES ONLY FOR AMBASSADOR LEONARD WOODCOCK

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PEPR MARR CH US

SUBJECT: PRC DEMARCHE ON MILITARY SALES TO TAIWAN

1. PRCLO DEPUTY CHIEF HAN HSU, AT HIS REQUEST, CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE AUGUST 21. AFTER INITIAL PLEASANTRIES, HAN SAID, "LET'S GET DOWN TO FORMAL MATTERS" AND PROCEEDED TO READ THE FOLLOWING DEMARCHE. BEGIN QUOTE: ACCORDING TO NEWS REPORTS, WHILE CONTINUING TO CONSIDER THE SALE OF F-4'S TO THE CHIANG CLIQUE THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO SELL 200 MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF MILITARY WEAPONS TO THE CHIANG CLIQUE. SUCH AN ACT BY THE U.S. SIDE IS NOT IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE AND CAN ONLY FURTHER COMPLICATE THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES. THE CHINESE SIDE FINDS IT NECESSARY TO REITERATE ITS POSITION EXPRESSED IN
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ITS MESSAGE TO THE U.S. SIDE ON JUNE 19 AND HOPES THAT THE U.S. SIDE WILL GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO IT. END QUOTE.

2. HOLBROOKE REPLIED THAT HE WOULD RELAY HAN'S MESSAGE WITH ALL THE SERIOUSNESS IT DESERVED TO THE SECRETARY, DR. BRZEZINSKI AND TO THE PRESIDENT. HE SAID HE WISHED TO

REPEAT THAT THE PRESIDENT IS EXTREMELY SERIOUS IN HIS DETERMINATION TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS IN THE SPIRIT OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE. WHILE WE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE IN MORE DETAIL, HOLBROOKE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO DIRECT HAN'S ATTENTION TO THAT PORTION OF HIS HONOLULU SPEECH IN WHICH HE DISCUSSED NORMALIZATION OF U.S.-PRC RELATIONS AS WELL AS RECENT STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS BY THE PRESIDENT. IN ADDITION, HOLBROOKE DREW HAN'S ATTENTION TO AMBASSADOR CHAI TSE-MIN'S CONVERSATIONS WITH DR. BRZEZINSKI AND HIMSELF WHICH ALSO EMPHASIZED THE PRESIDENT'S DESIRE TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS AND HIS DETERMINATION TO WORK TOWARD THAT OBJECTIVE. HOLBROOKE CONCLUDED THAT HE WOULD NOT COMMENT ON NEWS REPORTS, PARTICULARLY SINCE HE WAS NOT SURE TO WHICH ONE HAN REFERRED. HE NOTED THAT PRESS REPORTS ARE AS OFTEN WRONG AS THEY ARE RIGHT.

3. HAN NOTED THAT THERE WAS ONE MORE POINT THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO MENTION. DURING THE BRZEZINSKI VISIT TO CHINA THE PRC LEADERSHIP HAD EXPRESSED ITS VIEWS REGARDING U.S. STATEMENTS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAD MADE UP HIS MTND BY REFERRING TO THE CHINESE SAYING "HEAR THE WORDS AND SEE HOW HE ACTS."

4. FOLLOWING A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF AMBASSADOR CHAI'S CALLS AND CONGRESSMAN WOLFF'S INTEREST IN HOSTING A LUNCH
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FOR AMBASSADOR CHAI THE MEETING CONCLUDED.

5. COMMENT: HAN'S DEMARCHE CLEARLY REFERS TO RECENT PRESS REPORTS FOLLOWING OFFICIAL DOD NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS OF ITS INTENTION TO SELL TAIWAN HOWITZERS AND THE THIRD BATTALION OF I-HAWK MISSILES. THE TOTAL VALUE OF THOSE SALES WAS DOLS. 217.7 MILLION.
CHRISTOPHER

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